

## Region 5 FY2006 Environmental Justice Action Plan

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Region 5 is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin and is home to diverse and numerous urban, industrial, and rural areas. Because of this diversity, it is important that we work to ensure environmental justice (EJ) for all populations. Regardless of race, color, national origin or income, it is vital that all people have an opportunity to live, work, and play in a clean, safe, and healthy environment.

Region 5 is committed to promoting and supporting equitable environmental protection for all people and recognizes its role in ensuring increased involvement from communities disproportionately impacted by environmental pollution. We realize many of these communities do not have adequate access to the resources and information needed to get their concerns addressed. Therefore, it is only through increased involvement and attention that we can ensure the needs of these communities are addressed and that they do not suffer from disproportionate environmental or human health impacts.

EPA has defined EJ as *“the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. **Fair treatment** means that no group of people, including racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic group, should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or the execution of federal, state, local, and tribal programs and policies. **Meaningful involvement** means that: (1) potentially affected community residents have an appropriate opportunity to participate in decisions about a proposed activity that will affect their environment and/or health; (2) the public’s contribution can influence the regulatory agency’s decision; (3) the concerns of all participants involved will be considered in the decision making process; and (4) the decision makers seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected.”*

In sum, environmental justice is the goal to be achieved for all communities and persons across this Nation. Environmental justice is achieved when everyone, regardless of race, culture, or income, enjoys the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.

Since 1994, we have worked to achieve environmental justice within our Region. During this time, we have made significant progress by making much needed changes in the way we do business, both internally and externally. We have conducted training to help us identify and address EJ issues, formed collaborative partnerships with EJ stakeholders, enhanced our public outreach and education efforts, provided more opportunities for communities to participate in the decision-making process, and become more sensitive to the needs and concerns of the communities we serve. Our 2006 EJ Action Plan describes activities we will undertake this fiscal year to more fully integrate EJ into Region 5's programs and operations and we will focus our work through the use of the EJSEAT methodology. With the full support of Regional management and staff, we are pleased to present this EJ Action Plan as our commitment to work to ensure a better quality of life and a safer and healthier living environment for all the citizens of Region 5.

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## REGION 5 FY06 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACTION PLAN MATRIX

### GOAL 1: Clean Air and Global Climate Change

#### Objective 1: Reduction in number of asthma attacks (e.g., reduce asthma triggers such as particulate matter)

Activity	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
<p>1. Asthma--Initiate Children's Environmental Health activities related to schools.</p> <p>(a) Comprehensive schools training course is developed and implemented as part of Western Michigan focus (in conjunction with WPTD).</p> <p>(b) Focus our Tools for Schools (TfS) efforts in the Detroit area.</p>	<p>(a) By 2006, Region 5 staff is trained and by 2007, staff delivers multi-media outreach to constituents.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Type of training provided, how often training was delivered, and number of staff trained.</i></p> <p>(b) Detroit Public School system begins to implement TfS in 2006.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number of schools that implemented TfS.</i></p>	<p>(a) Exposure to environmental hazards and asthma triggers is minimized.</p> <p>(b) More students and staff experience improved air quality in their schools.</p>	<p>(a) Jack Barnette, ARD 312-886-6175 <a href="mailto:Barnette.Jack@epa.gov">Barnette.Jack@epa.gov</a></p> <p>Jennifer Ostermeier, OSEC 312-353-0618 <a href="mailto:Ostermeier.Jennifer@epa.gov">Ostermeier.Jennifer@epa.gov</a></p> <p>(b) Jeanette Marrero, ARD 312-886-6543 <a href="mailto:Marrero.Jeanette@epa.gov">Marrero.Jeanette@epa.gov</a></p> <p>Syed Quadri, OSEC 312-886-5736 <a href="mailto:Quadri.Syed@epa.gov">Quadri.Syed@epa.gov</a></p>

**GOAL 1: Clean Air and Global Climate Change**

**Objective 2: Reduce exposure to air toxics (e.g., reduce releases of mercury)**

Activity	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
1. Air Toxics--Conduct Radon testing and outreach effort in EJ community located in a Zone 1 Radon area.	One hundred (100) homes tested for Radon.	Residents are knowledgeable about the health risks and remediation options to minimize those risks.  <i>Midyear &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number of homes where test kits were supplied and the number of test kits returned.</i>	Helen Tsiapas, ARD 312-886-7901 <a href="mailto:Tsiapas.Helen@epa.gov">Tsiapas.Helen@epa.gov</a>
2. Diesel—Conduct Diesel activities in EJ area.  (a) Identify potential Smartway partners in EJ areas and recruit companies to become a Smartway partner.  (b) Identify Tribes to target for Clean School Bus USA proposal submission, while encouraging all Tribes to submit a proposal.	(a) Target companies to join Smartway program with logistics, trucking, and rail companies and associations signing on as Smartway partners to implement fuel savings and equipment retrofit strategies.  <i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number of companies that joined the Smartway program.</i>  (b) At least 1 Tribal Clean School Bus USA proposal is successful in the National competition for funding. (Based on historical numbers, this would be 25% of the total annual Region 5 Clean School Bus awards.)  <i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Identify successful Tribal Clean Bus USA proposal.</i>	(a) NOx and PM emissions are reduced and fuel savings are gained, which have beneficial impacts on air quality with corollary health benefits for susceptible populations in EJ areas.  <i>Midyear &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Estimate of the emissions reduced.</i>  (b) NOx and PM emissions reduced are commensurate with the number of school buses retrofitted or replaced, with corollary health benefits for students and other susceptible populations in EJ areas.	(a) Jennifer Dunn, ARD 312-353-5899 <a href="mailto:Dunn.Jennifer@epa.gov">Dunn.Jennifer@epa.gov</a>  Sheila Batka, ARD 312-886-6053 <a href="mailto:Batka.Sheila@epa.gov">Batka.Sheila@epa.gov</a>  (b) Julie Henning, ARD 312-886-4882 <a href="mailto:Henning.Julie@epa.gov">Henning.Julie@epa.gov</a>

**GOAL 2: Clean and Safe Water**

**Objective 1: Safe fish/shellfish**

**Objective2: Clean and safe drinking water**

Activity	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
1. Review Class 5 wells closed through the voluntary closure initiative to determine if the initiative's targeting and outreach activities reached disproportionately impacted communities.	<p>(a) Develop a report discussing the results of the evaluation, as well as any proposals for revising outreach to better reach disproportionately impacted communities, if needed.</p> <p>(b) Revise outreach tools, as appropriate.</p> <p>(c) Number of wells closed through voluntary closure in EJSEAT areas.</p>	<p>All owners of Class 5 wells are provided equal understanding of and access to the voluntary closure initiative.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number of wells closed through voluntary closure; percent of those wells which are in areas identified using EJSEAT.</i></p>	<p>Becky Harvey, WD 312-886-6594 <a href="mailto:Harvey.Rebecca@epa.gov">Harvey.Rebecca@epa.gov</a></p> <p>Linda Holst, WD 312-886-6758 <a href="mailto:Holst.Linda@epa.gov">Holst.Linda@epa.gov</a></p>
2. Review TMDLs reviewed and approved in 2003-2005 against demographics for all impaired waters, to ensure the State/EPA process for prioritizing TMDL development does not result in disproportionate impact on any group of people.	<p>(a) Report discussing the results of the evaluation, as well as any proposals for revising prioritizing schemes.</p> <p>(b) If appropriate, revised prioritization of TMDL development, for 2008 listing cycle.</p> <p>(c) Number of TMDLs approved in EJSEAT areas.</p>	<p>No group of people suffers disproportionate exposure to impaired waters, as a result of TMDL prioritization protocols.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number of TMDLS approved; percent of those TMDLS impacting EJSEAT areas.</i></p>	<p>Wendy Melgin, WD 312-886-7745 <a href="mailto:Melgin.Wendy@epa.gov">Melgin.Wendy@epa.gov</a></p> <p>Linda Holst, WD 312-886-7745 <a href="mailto:Holst.Linda@epa.gov">Holst.Linda@epa.gov</a></p>

**GOAL 3: Land Preservation and Restoration**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Point of Contact</b>
1. Focus on revitalization and reuse of superfund sites with EJ concerns.	Identify the number of superfund sites in EJ communities that will be made available for revitalization and reuse in 2006.	<p>Increase in property value and economic benefits.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number, type, and benefit of revitalization and reuse projects in EJ communities.</i></p>	<p>Tom Bloom, Superfund Redevelopment Coordinator, SFD 312-886-1967 <a href="mailto:Bloom.Thomas@epa.gov">Bloom.Thomas@epa.gov</a></p>
2. Identify and document EJ concerns included in the Five-Year Review Process.	Develop a report to identify EJ concerns.	<p>Improve participation of communities in Five Year Review process.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number and type of concerns documented.</i></p>	<p>Rosita Clarke- Moreno, SFD 312-886-7251 <a href="mailto:Clarke.Rosita@epa.gov">Clarke.Rosita@epa.gov</a></p>
3. Track emergency removal sites that are located in EJ communities.	Identify the number of time and non-time critical removals in EJ communities cleaned-up in 2006.	<p>On-Scene Coordinators will identify quantity of waste removed in EJ communities.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Description of waste removed (soil, drums).</i></p>	<p>Bill Messenger, SFD 312-353-1057 <a href="mailto:Messenger.William@epa.gov">Messenger.William@epa.gov</a></p>

<p>4. Perform EJ analysis for any site receiving a draft Federal RCRA permit decision.</p> <p>(a) Based on the analysis determine whether the area is a potential EJ area and the basis for the determination.</p> <p>(b) For potential EJ areas, review communication options and any additional evaluation requirements.</p> <p>(c) Provide results to community as part of the draft permit public record.</p> <p>(d) Respond to public EJ comments and reevaluate permit conditions based on comments.</p>	<p>Determination of potential EJ status based on site specific EJ analysis.</p> <p>Final permit reflects EJ analysis and public comments.</p> <p>EJ analysis made available to public through the permit administrative records process.</p>	<p>Enhanced public participation in the permitting process and residents are better informed regarding the potential EJ status of their community.</p> <p>If appropriate, permit includes actions to address EJ concerns.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number of permits issued, number of permits in EJ areas, number of permits where EJ concerns/issues were raised by public requiring further analysis.</i></p>	<p>José Cisneros, WPTD 312-886-6945 <a href="mailto:Cisneros.Jose@epa.gov">Cisneros.Jose@epa.gov</a></p> <p>Willie Harris, WPTD 312-353-2306 <a href="mailto:Harris.Willie@epa.gov">Harris.Willie@epa.gov</a></p>
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**GOAL 4: HEALTH COMMUNITIES AND ECOSYSTEMS**

**Objective 1: Reduction in elevated blood lead levels**

Activity	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
<p>1. Foster effective partnerships</p> <p>(a) Identify, develop and maintain cooperation and coordination among all stakeholders who have partial jurisdiction in lead poisoning prevention.</p> <p>(b) Participate in and promote the development of effective State, Tribal, and Local lead strategies responsive to state and Local needs and conditions.</p> <p>(c) Work on joint priority setting with the Great Cities Urban Initiative Managers in Region 5's Great Cities.</p>	<p>On-going partnerships sustained in Chicago, Detroit, and Cleveland to address elevated children's blood lead levels in hot spots.</p> <p>State project officers attend relevant partnership meetings.</p> <p>Continued participation in R5/State Lead Conference.</p> <p>Continued support of the state and city lead elimination plans.</p>	<p>Lead poisoning partnering program resources are focused in EJ communities.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Identify partnerships fostered and stakeholders included.</i></p>	<p>Mardi Klevs, WPTD 312-353-5490 <a href="mailto:Klevs.Mardi@epa.gov">Klevs.Mardi@epa.gov</a></p>
<p>2. Target technical support efforts to reduce exposures to lead in the areas/neighborhoods with greatest needs.</p> <p>(a) Provide technical support to vulnerable populations and tribal grants.</p>	<p>Oversee the three awarded lead vulnerable population grants from FY05.</p> <p>One Tribal lead grant awarded.</p> <p>If offered in FY 06, screen and rank applications for vulnerable population lead grants.</p>	<p>Childhood blood lead levels reduced from levels identified in year 2000.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Identify outreach and technical support activities.</i></p>	<p>Mardi Klevs, WPTD 312-353-5490 <a href="mailto:Klevs.Mardi@epa.gov">Klevs.Mardi@epa.gov</a></p>



<p>3. Effectively implement specific Federal lead Programs, including the use of non-conventional approaches where needed and appropriate.</p> <p>Provide outreach and education on lead hazards and exposure pathways to EJ communities.</p>	<p>Twenty-five thousand (25,000) individuals in EJ communities are targeted through general lead education and outreach activities.</p>	<p>Exposure to lead-based paint hazards reduced.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Progress in meeting outreach and inspection output goals.</i></p>	<p>Mardi Klevs, WPTD 312-353-5490 <a href="mailto:Klevs.Mardi@epa.gov">Klevs.Mardi@epa.gov</a></p>
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**GOAL 4: HEALTHY COMMUNITIES AND ECOSYSTEMS**

**Objective 2: Collaborative problem-solving to address environmental justice issues**

Activity	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
1. Great Cities Partnership program, in consultation with EPA staff and the Mayors' offices, will promote conducting work in high priority human health risks communities.	<p>Most Great Cities Partnership program grants will be awarded to address disproportionate risks in urban communities.</p> <p>The nationally awarded Region 5 CARE grants will address disproportionate risks in a Region 5 community.</p>	<p>The reduced environmental burden, as a result of Great Cities and CARE grant projects, will be measured to the extent practicable.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Accomplishments achieved as a result of grant projects.</i></p>	<p>John Perrecone, OSEC 312-353-1149 <a href="mailto:Perrecone.John@epa.gov">Perrecone.John@epa.gov</a></p>
2. Children's Health - Provide technical assistance to R5 school districts to implement Environmental Management Systems (EMSs) in schools within EJ areas.	<p>EMS Technical assistance provided to R5 school districts.</p>	<p>A significant number of children in R5 will attend schools that have healthier environment, including reduced exposures to poor indoor air quality, asbestos, mercury, pesticides and other hazardous chemicals.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Identify school districts that received technical assistance and type of assistance provided.</i></p>	<p>Maryann Suero, WPTD 312-886-9077 <a href="mailto:Suero.Maryann@epa.gov">Suero.Maryann@epa.gov</a></p>

3. Environmental Justice Small Grants Program.	Provide financial assistance to the community based organization, Earth Day Coalition, in the amount of \$25,000, to carry out its environmental justice project in Cleveland, OH.	Build a network of minority student leaders to work with a local low-income and minority neighborhood to promote community involvement in local environmental health and quality of life issues in Cleveland, Ohio.  <i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-year Reporting: Progress in meeting output goal.</i>	Margaret Millard, WPTD 312-353-1440 <a href="mailto:Millard.Margaret@epa.gov">Millard.Margaret@epa.gov</a>
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**GOAL 4: HEALTHY COMMUNITIES AND ECOSYSTEMS**

**Objective 3: Revitalization of brownfields and contaminated sites**

Activity	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
1. Focus on revitalized and re-use of brownfield sites with EJ concerns.	<p>(a) Brownfield sites in EJ communities are targeted for revitalization and reuse in 2006.</p> <p>(b) Urban properties are made available for residential use.</p> <p>(c) Resources are allocated for assessments, cleanup, and redevelopment in EJ areas.</p>	<p>Increase economic base in community, sustainable reuse of urban infrastructure, expand use of green technology, increase construction in housing and commercial development.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number of brownfields site targeted for revitalization and reuse; number of urban properties made available for residential use; and number of dollars spent on assessments, cleanup, and redevelopment in EJ areas.</i></p>	<p>Joseph Dufficy, SFD 312-886-1960 <a href="mailto:Dufficy.Joseph@epa.gov">Dufficy.Joseph@epa.gov</a></p>
2. Expand Brownfield job training opportunities in EJ communities.	Award Job Training Grants in EJ communities.	<p>Outcome: Additional jobs are created in EJ communities; individuals acquire life skills through job training.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number of Job Training Grants awarded in EJ communities, number of individuals trained, and number of trainees securing jobs.</i></p>	<p>Joseph Dufficy, SFD 312-886-1960 <a href="mailto:Dufficy.Joseph@epa.gov">Dufficy.Joseph@epa.gov</a></p>

**GOAL 5: COMPLIANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**

**Objective 1: Ensure compliance**

Activity	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
1. Review other agencies' NEPA documents and comment as appropriate on EJ implications of projects.	Number and nature of comments related to EJ at draft and final EIS stages.	EJ considerations are adequately presented in NEPA documents.  <i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number of NEPA documents where feedback was provided on EJ evaluation and nature of those considerations. Percentage of comments made that were addressed.</i>	Ken Westlake, OSEC 312-886-2910 <a href="mailto:Westlake.Kenneth@epa.gov">Westlake.Kenneth@epa.gov</a>
2. Include consideration of EJ issues in EPA's preparation of NEPA documents for Congressional Special Appropriation projects.	Number and nature of EJ issues resolved or mitigated to allow signing a "Finding of No Significant Impact."	EJ considerations are adequately presented in NEPA documents.  <i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number of NEPA documents where feedback was provided on EJ evaluation and nature of those considerations. Percentage of comments made that were addressed.</i>	Ken Westlake, OSEC 312-886-2910 <a href="mailto:Westlake.Kenneth@epa.gov">Westlake.Kenneth@epa.gov</a>

3. Encourage and pursue SEPs in enforcement agreements which hold potential environmental benefits for Environmental Justice areas.	<p>Priority consideration is given to SEP proposals which have the greatest potential for environmental benefits in EJ areas. SEPs in finalized agreements will be analyzed for associated emission reductions, which will be quantified and captured in case conclusion data sheets.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Number, location, and benefit of SEPs.</i></p>	<p>Environmental Justice areas will benefit from greater focus on SEPs with emission reductions resulting from the priority consideration with corollary health benefits for susceptible populations in EJ areas.</p> <p>Records of SEP emission reductions will be available to document environmental benefits resulting from the strategy.</p>	<p>George Czerniak, ARD 312-886-6789 <a href="mailto:Czerniak.George@epa.gov">Czerniak.George@epa.gov</a></p>
4. Perform compliance monitoring and enforcement in EJ communities.	<p>Fifty (50) section 1018 inspections conducted, of which 90% will be targeted in known or suspected EJ lead hot spots.</p>	<p>Exposure to lead-based paint hazards reduced.</p> <p><i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Progress in meeting output goals.</i></p>	<p>Mardi Klevs, WPTD 312-353-5490 <a href="mailto:Klevs.Mardi@epa.gov">Klevs.Mardi@epa.gov</a></p>
5. Use EJSEAT to identify areas with potential EJ concerns in order to target activities and enforcement follow-up for OECA national priorities.	<p>At midyear, assess, and identify outputs from ARD, WD, and WPTD.</p>	<p>At midyear, assess, and identify outcomes from ARD, WD, and WPTD.</p>	<p>Tinka Hyde, OECA 312-886-9296 <a href="mailto:Hyde.Tinka@epa.gov">Hyde.Tinka@epa.gov</a></p> <p>Region 5 Enforcement &amp; Compliance Assistance Team</p>

## CROSS-CUTTING STRATEGIES

**Objective:** *Internal Capacity Building (e.g., internal program management)*

Activity	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
1. Maintain active partnerships with Region 5 State EJ Coordinators.	Host quarterly conference calls with Region 5 State EJ coordinators to discuss important EJ issues.	Region 5 States and EPA have a common understanding of respective EJ priorities and partner in EJ activities, as appropriate.  <i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Nature and benefits of quarterly State conference calls.</i>	Karla Owens, EJ Program Manager, OECA 312-886-5993 <a href="mailto:Owens.Karla@epa.gov">Owens.Karla@epa.gov</a>
2. Enhance communication of EJ-related information to internal Regional staff and external stakeholders.	(a) Leverage opportunities to work with programs to provide EJ education and outreach to internal and external stakeholders.  (b) Create and maintain the Region 5 EJ website for external stakeholders.  (c) Incorporate EJ flag into the OECA citizen tip/complaint system.  (d) Work with programs to identify opportunities to enhance community participation in Agency decision-making processes.	Region 5 staff and external stakeholders are better informed and better equipped to identify and address EJ issues.  <i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Progress on the type and benefits of the education and outreach provided, utilization rate of website, utilization and benefits of EJ flag in OECA complaint system.</i>	Karla Owens, EJ Program Manager, OECA 312-886-5993 <a href="mailto:Owens.Karla@epa.gov">Owens.Karla@epa.gov</a>  Philipp Tinter, OPA 312-353-8270 <a href="mailto:Tinter.Philipp@epa.gov">Tinter.Philipp@epa.gov</a>  Cheryl Allen, OPA 312-353-6196 <a href="mailto:Allen.Cheryl@epa.gov">Allen.Cheryl@epa.gov</a>

3. Track progress of Action Plan activities, outputs, and outcomes.	Develop process for reporting progress of Action Plan implementation.	Region 5 is informed of its progress and accomplishments toward implementing its EJ Action Plan.  <i>Mid-year &amp; End-of-Year Reporting: Progress of EJ Action Plan implementation.</i>	Karla Owens, EJ Program Manager, OECA 312-886-5993 <a href="mailto:Owens.Karla@epa.gov">Owens.Karla@epa.gov</a>
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